

Bio for Michael Mills



Michael Mills, Director of the Flight Operations and Safety Division and a Patrick County native, supervises the operation of State aircraft assigned to the Department. He oversees scheduling of the aircraft and pilots for the transportation of state personnel. Michael also supervises the Safety Programs Administrator in initiating safety programs for the general aviation public through the presentation of safety seminars, meetings, and clinics. He serves as a Command Pilot on the Citation and King Air aircraft.

Michael holds an Airline Transport Pilot license (Multi-Engine Land) and is type-rated in the Cessna Citation 500 series aircraft. He has a commercial pilot/instrument license for single engine aircraft. He is also a certified flight instructor. He has completed Phase 16 of the FAA Pilot Proficiency Award Program. He is the Department's representative with NBAA, and he is also a member of AAEE.

Aviation is a second career for Michael. He began his professional career in retail management and then moved on to become a manufacturers' representative selling clothing to retailers. He received his Private Pilot's certificate in early 1984 after going through an on-again, off-again training process for two years while working. He completed all training necessary to become flight instructor in late 1987. He began his professional flight career at the Virginia Tech Airport in January 1988 as a flight instructor. His progression at Virginia Tech included Chief Flight Instructor, Airport Operations Manager, and Assistant Airport Manager while gaining experience flying the King Air and Cessna Citation II. He left Virginia Tech as a Command Pilot on both aircraft to join the Department of Aviation in February 2000. He became the Director of the Flight Operations & Safety Division in March of 2003.

Michael has a Bachelor of Science in Marketing from Virginia Tech. He has also done graduate work at Radford University.

Michael and his wife, Robin, a retired teacher, have been married 33 years. Their daughter attends college. His hobbies include traveling and restoring and maintaining old Buicks.